

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, MS 19-78, Sacramento, CA 95814



February 4, 1991

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-08-91

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: OUT-OF-STATE AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN  
FOSTER CARE (AFDC-FC) GROUP HOME PLACEMENTS

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 87-65  
ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE (ACIN) I-91-83

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the responsibilities for determining the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) rates, the licensing requirements, and the verification of the profit/nonprofit status of group home facilities located outside California.

GROUP HOME RATES FOR AFDC-FC PLACEMENTS OUT-OF-STATE

The policy stated in ACL 87-65 and ACIN I-91-83 "Out-of-State Foster Care (AFDC-FC) Placement," regarding rate setting for group homes outside of California, is still applicable. Rates for these group homes are established by the rate setting authority in the state in which the group home is located. The County Welfare Department (CWD) is responsible for obtaining the rate from the appropriate rate setting authority and also for ensuring that only "allowable costs" as defined in Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 11-402.82 are included in the rate.

However, there is an exception in the case of youths who are placed in group homes out-of-state and who would otherwise be placed in California Youth Authority (CYA) facilities (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11462.1). In these cases, the appropriate rate is that established by the rate setting authority of the state in which the group home is located; the CWD is not required to check for allowability of the costs. An example would be placements into VisionQuest which is considered an alternative to placement into a CYA facility. If the court order documents that the child was committed to the CYA and that the commitment is suspended pending placement in the named out-of-state facility, the CWD should verify and pay the rate established by Arizona, the rate setting authority.

All out-of-state rates determined by the county are to be reported to the State Department of Social Services, as noted in ACIN I-91-83. This rate information should be sent to:

Department of Social Services  
Foster Care Program Bureau  
744 P Street, MS 19-78  
Sacramento, CA 95814

#### LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

AFDC-FC can only be paid on behalf of an otherwise eligible child who is placed in an eligible facility as defined in Eligibility Assistance Standards (EAS) Section 45-202.5 and 45-203.4. California does not have the authority to license facilities located in other states. Therefore, in order to meet this requirement for out-of-state placements, the facility must meet the standards of and be licensed by the state in which it is located. The facility must be licensed as a child care facility and must accord the child the same personal rights as described in EAS Section 45-202.517 and 45-203.417. To avoid a claiming error, the license status and the child's personal rights in facilities located outside of California must be verified prior to authorization of payment. The CWD must maintain a copy of this information in the child's case file.

#### PROFIT/NONPROFIT STATUS

California has both a Federal and a State-only AFDC-FC Program. Each program has different eligibility and placement criteria. The profit/nonprofit status of the group home provider is one of these program differences. These criteria are defined in EAS Section 45-202.5 and 45-203.4 regarding eligible facilities. The CWD may claim Federal funding for an otherwise Federally eligible AFDC-FC child placed out-of-state if the CWD verifies that the group home facility is a nonprofit corporation. The CWD must obtain and maintain in the child's case file a copy of the ruling or determination letter recognizing the tax exemption from the Federal Government as verification of the nonprofit status.

Attached is a list of the profit/nonprofit status for the most frequently used out-of-state group home facilities reported to the Department. The Department has verified each profit/nonprofit status during December, 1990. However, the CWD must be aware that the profit/nonprofit status of a group home facility MAY change. An example is the Rite of Passage group home provider which became a "profit" corporation.

If you have any questions on the out-of-state group home policies described in this letter, please contact the Foster Care Program Bureau at (916) 445-0813.



ROBERT A. HOREL  
Deputy Director  
Welfare Program Division

cc: CWDA

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

PROFIT STATUS  
FREQUENTLY USED OUT-OF-STATE  
GROUP HOMES

Arizona Boys Ranch	Nonprofit
Boys Ranch, Arizona 85225	
(602) 892-9550	

Delancy Street	Nonprofit
P.O. Box 1240	
San Juan Pueblo, NM 87566	
(505) 852-4291	

Devereux Foundation	Nonprofit
19 South Waterloo Road, Box 400	
Devon, PA 19333	
(215) 964-3000	

Excelsior Youth Center	Nonprofit
15001 East Oxford	
Aurora, Colorado 80014	
(303) 693-1550	

Heritage Schools (Heritage Center)	Profit
P.O. Box 105	
Provo, Utah 84603	
(801) 224-0403	

Rite of Passage, Inc.	Profit
P.O. Box 1360	
Minden, Nevada 89423	
(702) 782-7191	

VisionQuest National, Ltd.	Profit
P.O. Box 12906	
Tucson, Arizona 85732	
(602) 881-3950	

State of California  
Department of Social Services  
December 31, 1990